Penalty paid by NCCF due to non-fulfilment of export obligation

2424. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the NCCF some time back had to pay a penalty of Rs. 2 lakhs to the CCI&E for non-fulfilment of its commitment of export obligation in wheat-bran case on behalf of M/s. Regent International, World Trade Centre, Bombay;

(b) whether the corresponding Bank guarantee of Rs. 2 lakhs furnished by M/s. Regent Int. Bombay was not enforced and encashed by the NCCF Officials in its validity period for non-performance of its contract with the NCCF;

(c) whether the Vigilance Inquiry has held responsible for this default two NCCF officers specifically; and

(d) what Departmental action has been taken against these two officers so far whether they have been permitted to hold high positions in NCCF and if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir.

(d) No action has been taken by the NCCF so far. The case has been referred to the CBI for investigation.

Findings of the Enquiry into smuggling of rice

2425. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN:
SHRI VIRENDRA VERMA:

Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to refer to the reply to Starred Question 183 and Unstarred Question 1208 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 6th May, 1986 and the 6th March 1987 respectively and state:

(a) what are the findings of the CID Bombay and the CBI, reported to have been submitted to the Chief Metropolitan Magistrate, Bombay;

(b) the Departmental action taken against the NCCF officials involved therein; and

(c) what further action is contemplated against those found guilty (including M/s Regent International, Bombay) for smuggling out of India 9,300 MTS of Permal Rice (then a licensed item) under the Export Trade Regulation Act and FERA etc. depriving the country of the much needed foreign exchange worth Rs. 4 crores?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) CBI has not made any independent investigation in the case. However, the CID, Bombay, has submitted its reports in the Court of the Chief Metropolitan Magistrate, Bombay but copies of the same have not been sent either to the NCCF or to the Government of India.

(b) and (c) Since the criminal case is pending before the Chief Metropolitan Magistrate, action against the erring staff or the private firm would be taken after the case is decided by the Hon'ble Court.

Encroachment on DDA land

2426. SHRI SHARAD YADAV: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that about 6000 hectares of land between the urban limits of South Delhi and the border of the Union Territory is in the danger of being encroached upon because of the failure of DDA to formulate strategies for its use;

(b) if so, what are the reasons for delay in formulating the strategies for the use of vast area of land by the DDA resulting in the present situation and the steps taken by Government to speedy formulation and execution of the plans for its use; and

(c) what measures have been taken by the Government to prevent illegal occupation of the land thereby adding to the problem of unauthorised construction activities in the capital besides creating civic problems?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) No, Sir.

(b) A Scheme has been prepared by the Delhi Development Authority for making use of a part of land. This is under consideration of the Delhi Administration for the purpose of handing over land.

(c) Does not arise in view of (a) above.

Profiteering by NCCF in import business

2427. SHRI VIRENDRA VERMA: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether JCCI and E, New Delhi in its 'Department order' dated the 24th January, 1985 on NCCF have held it guilty of indulging in profiteering like private traders in the sale of Dry Fruits imported against ad-hoc special licence during 198?;

(b) whether it is a fact that JCCI and E had held Regional Manager (West) Bombay of the NCCF responsible for the breach of licence conditions and the import control order 1955;

(c) whether heavy cold storage charges @ Rs. 2000/- per MT per month and clearing and forwarding charges @ Rs. 420 per MT were paid to certain favoured parties without inviting tenders;

(d) whether consignment of Pista and Almond were purchased from Iran parties without inviting tenders;

(e) whether these consignments were brought by Air thereby heavily pushing up the prices and causing losses to the Federation; and

(f) if so, what is the justification and what action has been taken by Government against the officers involved in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

(c) As per records of the National Cooperative Consumers Federation, the cold storage was not selected through tenders and the charges for the same was Rs. 2/- per month per bag of 20 kg upto December, 1982 and Rs. 2.50 per bag per month thereafter. The contract @ Rs. 400 per MT for clearing and forwarding the consignment was awarded to a firm on the basis of the quotations received in response to a press advertisement.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) National Cooperative Consumers Federation has reported that these dry fruits were imported and its landed cost went up due to its being air-lifted.

(f) A departmental enquiry against the Regional Manager (West) of NCCF has been instituted for his lapses in the deal and the officer has been placed under suspension."

Award of contract for gas-based fertilizer plants to M/s. Snamprogetti

2428. SHRI RAM NARESH KUSHAWAHA:
SHRI SHARAD YADAV:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that M/s. Snamprogetti were the turnkey suppliers and consultants for four of the seven gas-based fertiliser projects in the country and in respect of the remaining three fertilizer projects no